



SKELETON MAP OF THE OVERLAND MAIL ROUTE TO CALIFORNIA

Route adopted by the Department traced in Green

Route proposed by John Butterfield and others (who were the lowest bidders) in Red.

ST. LOUIS TO SAN FRANCISCO, via,
LITTLE ROCK, PRESTON, DONA ANA, AND SAN PEDRO
BORDER ROUTE (GREEN) MILES 2585

ST. LOUIS TO SAN FRANCISCO, via,
NEOSHO, ANTON CHICO, ALBUQUERQUE, AND TIJON PASS
35TH PARALLL (RED) MILES 2194.
DIFFERENCE IN FAVOR OF ST. LOUIS ROUTE, FOUR DAYS TRAVEL 391 MILES.

NEW YORK TO MEMPHIS BY SOUTHERN ROUTE 1423 MILES

NEW YORK TO ST. LOUIS DIRECT ROUTE 1093 MILES

NEW YORK TO SAN FRANCISCO
BY MEMPHIS AND THE BORDER ROUTE 3707 MILES.

NEW YORK TO SAN FRANCISCO
BY ST. LOUIS AND 35TH PARALLEL ROUTE 3287 MILES.
DIFFERENCE IN FAVOR OF ST. LOUIS ROUTE 420 MILES.

The Border Route passes along the Mexican Frontier through an unsettled country, crossing in its way seven deserts or sandy plains viz:— Sierra Estacado, 125 miles, Rio Grande to Rio Mimbres, 71 ms., Rio Mimbres to Valle de Suez, Valle de Suez to San Pedro 89 ms., San Pedro to Suezon 53 ms., Tucson to Yula 79 ms., and the Colorado desert 80 ms., total 569 ms. (see pps 19, 83, 84 + 66 Vol 1, Pacific R.R. Reports.

The St. Louis Route passes through the Cherokee settlements, through all the best settlements of New Mexico, and one Moquia villages west of Fort Defiance, where supplies can always be obtained. The country most of the way is rich and well watered, one plain of 40 miles, and that west of the Colorado River, to cross without water.

The Road from St. Louis to Little Rock alternates in hills and broad swamps of the St. Francis, Cache and Black Rivers no stage has ever passed over it, and no direct mail Route has ever been established between St. Louis and Little Rock.

The overland mail can be carried from St. Louis to Anton-Chico, about as soon as from St. Louis to Preston.

The Route proposed from St. Louis is a practicable and National Route, suited to the whole country. The Route adopted is a Sectional and Border route, suited to the views of extremists only.